

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) An underground water storage tank configured to be buried underground and to be capable of storing water therein, characterized in that said underground water storage tank comprises:

an internal water storage sub-tank provided by coating an assembly of water-bearing materials obtained by combining multiple water-bearing materials with one another with a first water-impermeable sheet;

soil pressure absorption plates for absorbing soil pressure from the surroundings of the underground water storage tank, provided outside said internal water storage sub-tank ; and

a second water-impermeable sheet for coating said soil pressure absorption plates so as to prevent water stored in the internal water storage sub-tank leaking to the exterior, and wherein an outer water storage compartment including said soil pressure absorption plates is defined between said first water-impermeable sheet and said second water-impermeable sheet ;

multiple vertical pipes , and coupling pipes for coupling said vertical pipes to one another,

wherein one or more first intake pipes , each having one end communicated to said internal water storage sub-tank and the other end opened into said outer water storage compartment , are provided to penetrate through said first water-impermeable sheet ; and

~~wherein~~ said first intake pipe is provided with a first non-return valve configured to[:] allow water to flow from said outer water storage compartment into the interior of ~~the or~~ each internal water storage sub-tank[,] when a water pressure of said outer water storage compartment is equal to or higher than a water pressure within the ~~or each~~ internal water storage sub-tank ; and prevent water from flowing from the interior of the ~~or each~~ internal water storage sub-tank to said outer water storage compartment [,] when a water pressure of said outer water storage compartment is below a water pressure within the or each internal water storage sub-tank, and wherein

said vertical pipes and said coupling pipes are embedded in said soil pressure absorption plates ; wherein said first intake pipe is provided through said first water-impermeable sheet so that the other end of said first intake pipe is opened into the interior of an applicable one of said vertical pipes; and wherein said first non-return valve is provided at the other end of said first intake pipe inside said applicable vertical pipe.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) The underground water storage tank of claim 5 further comprising:

one or more second intake pipes each having one end set to penetrate through said second water-impermeable sheet and communicated with said outer water storage compartment , and the other end opened underground around the outer periphery of said second water-impermeable sheet ;

a second non-return valve provided at one end or other end of said second intake pipe , and configured to: allow water to flow from the other end of said second intake pipe to one end thereof, when a water pressure at the other end of

said second intake pipe is equal to or higher than a water pressure at the one end of said second intake pipe ; and prevent water from flowing from the one end of said second intake pipe to the other end thereof, when a water pressure at the other end of said second intake pipe is below a water pressure at the one end of the or each second intake pipe; and

a perforated tube formed with a plurality of water-permeable holes over a periphery thereof, and buried in a manner to have one end connected to the other end said each second intake pipe or to said second non-return valve , and the other end to be located above said second non-return valve .

8 (Previously Presented) An underground water storage tank configured to be buried underground and to be capable of storing water therein, characterized in that said underground water storage tank comprises:

an internal water storage sub-tank comprising first water-bearing materials coated with a first water-impermeable sheet ;an outer water storage compartment defined between said first water- impermeable sheet provided around said internal water storage sub-tank and a second water-impermeable sheet , and provided by coating second water-bearing materials disposed around said internal water storage sub-tank with said second water-impermeable sheet ;

one or two or more intake pipes each provided to penetrate through said first water-impermeable sheet and to have one end communicated to said internal water storage sub-tank-and the other end opened into said outer water storage compartment;

a non-return valve provided at said intake pipe and configured to: allow water to flow from said outer water storage compartment into the interior of said internal water storage sub-tank , when a water level of the outer water storage compartment is equal to or higher than a water level inside said internal water storage sub-tank ; and prevent water from flowing from the interior of said internal water storage sub-tank into said outer water storage compartment , when a water level of said outer water storage compartment is below a water level inside said internal water storage sub-tank ; and

a water supply pipe for supplying said outer water storage compartment with water which is to be stored into said internal water storage sub-tank through said non-return valve-and intake pipe-, wherein said water supply pipe is provided at a lower portion of said outer water storage compartment so that the one end of said water supply pipes is located lower than the other end thereof;

wherein the one end of said water supply pipe is connected to a management liquid measure provided outside said second water-impermeable sheet; and

wherein said management liquid measure is configured so that water supplied to said management liquid measure is supplied into said outer water storage compartment from said management liquid measure through said water supply pipe.

9. (Previously Presented) The underground water storage tank of claim 8, wherein said internal water storage sub-tank comprises multiple internal water storage sub-tanks arranged in a horizontal direction with second water-bearing materials interposed therebetween; and

wherein said second water-impermeable sheet-is continuously established to coat said multiple internal water storage sub-tanks .

10. (Previously Presented) The underground water storage tank of claim 8, wherein said second water-bearing materials each comprises an expanded resin plate material having a surface formed with a plurality of water flow grooves .

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The underground water storage tank of claim 8, further comprising multiple vertical pipes , and coupling pipes for coupling said vertical pipes to one another, said vertical pipes and coupling pipes being embedded in said second water-bearing materials ;

wherein the other end of said water supply pipe-is connected to applicable one of said vertical pipes ;

wherein said intake pipe is provided at said first water- impermeable sheet such that the other end of said intake pipe is opened into the interior of applicable one of said vertical pipes ; and

wherein said non-return valve is provided at the other end of said intake pipe inside said applicable vertical pipe .